

Media Release

That's how EPL rolls!

New literacy van brings EPL programs and services outside the library and into the community

For immediate release:

EDMONTON, **AB**, **July 23**, **2014** – The Edmonton Public Library is hitting the streets to bring exciting library programs and the latest technology to Edmontonians.

The first in a series of four literacy vans, <u>epl2go</u> will visit new neighbourhoods and underserved communities in Edmonton, creating a pop up library space for learning, discovering and creating.

"We don't want location or transportation to be a barrier for any Edmontonian when it comes to using the library," said Linda Cook, CEO of EPL. "This is a library on wheels for citizens without easy access to our buildings or website."

epl2go features a full suite of services, including puppet shows and family storytimes, as well as digital fun with iPads, robotics, gaming and more. The van will appear everywhere from schools, parks and senior centres to hospitals, community leagues and more. There is even an opportunity to suggest an event or organization for epl2go to visit.

"At EPL we work to identify needs and meet them by creating community connections, and epl2go provides us another way to be out and about," said Cook. "Think food truck – but for your brain!"

The launch of the first of four literacy vans – one for each quadrant of the city – has been made possible due to ongoing donations to the library. Approximately \$250,000 is required for equipment and program costs for one van, and this ongoing project is one of two Centennial fundraising efforts on which EPL is focused. For more information, visit epl.ca/epl2go.

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About the Edmonton Public Library

The Edmonton Public Library (EPL) is proud to be <u>2014 Library of the Year!</u> From March 2013 to March 2014, EPL celebrated 100 years of service to our great city. We've come a long way since 1913 when books were all you could find on our shelves... and we're just getting started! Today, EPL carries everything you care about. We are Edmonton's largest lender of all manner of information and entertainment. Our professionally trained staff take you beyond Google with the knowledge, discernment and desire to help you navigate a



universe of information. The second most visited place in Edmonton, every year we host over 14 million inbranch and online visits across our 17 branches and website. We deliver our incredible content to you everywhere – in the library, at home or on your handheld device. Unmatched access and unrivalled value – that is today's EPL. EPL is a registered charity and relies on donations to enhance services. Spread the words. www.epl.ca/donate.

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